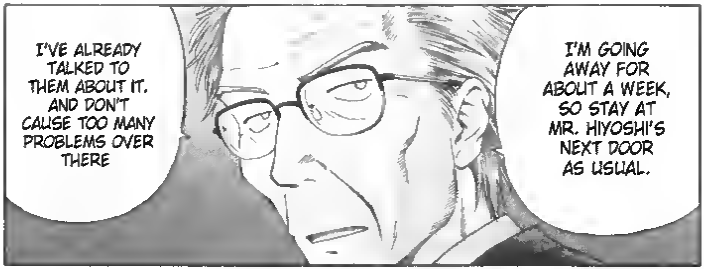
#3
Nagare-Izuna


I'VE ALREADY TALKED TO THEM ABOUT IT. AND DON'T CAUSE TOO MANY PROBLEMS OVER THERE
I'M GOING AWAY FOR ABOUT A WEEK, SO STAY AT MR. HIYOSHI'S NEXT DOOR AS USUAL.

WAKE UP, MIZUKI!

HURRY UP AND EAT YOUR BREAK-FAST.
HA HA
C'MON ...
ぼー

GOOD MORNING...
ぬぼー

もくもく
OH, HEY MIZUKI, YOU'RE AWAKE.
UHH-HI
I LEFT THE OFFER-INGS*
OH, BY THE WAY, HAVE YOU SEEN MIKE-SAN AROUND? HE SEEMS TO HAVE WANDERED OFF SOMEWHERE AGAIN
*IT'S AN OLD JAPANESE CUSTOM TO LEAVE "OFFERINGS" OF FOOD BY OLD SHRINES, STATUES, AND OTHER SPIRITUAL MONUMENTS
LIKE BY THE STATUES BY THE FIELDS DOWN YONDER, AND THE DOUSOSHIN* UP NORTH.
I HEAR THE SAME SORT OF THING'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE, TOO.
THOSE OFFERINGS HAVE SURE BEEN DISAPPEARING A LOT THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS.
THE STUFF I PUT THERE BEFORE WAS GONE AGAIN.
*A.K.A. SAENOKAMI, A GOD FOUND ON ROADS AND TOWN BOUNDARIES, END TO PREVENT MISFORTUNE AND PROMOTE TRAVEL SAFETY.
HEY, WHAT ABOUT ME?
FOOL. AT THAT AGE YOU SHOULD BE BRINGING HOME A FEW GUYS AT LEAST.
MAN...
THAT WAS SEXUAL HARASS-MENT, DON'T YOU THINK?
MAYBE.
MAYBE PEOPLE FROM THE OUTSIDE HAVE COME DRIFTING IN.
MIZUKI, SHIZURU, BE HOME BEFORE IT GETS DARK, OK?

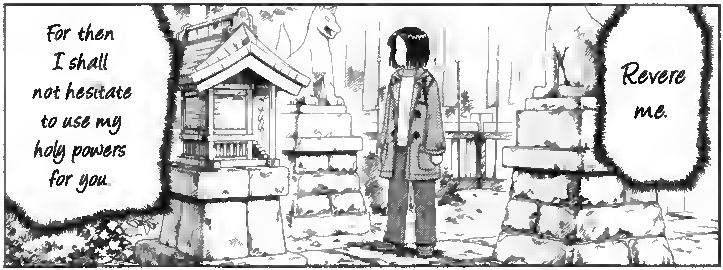
MIZUKI, YOU'VE GOT TO WAKE UP, AT LEAST WHEN YOU'RE OVER AT SOMEONE ELSE'S PLACE.
UHHH, YEAH.
I KNOW, BUT...

COME ON, YOU GO GET READY FOR WORK TOO
BE CAREFUL.
WELL, WE'RE GOING NOW.
YEAH, YEAH.

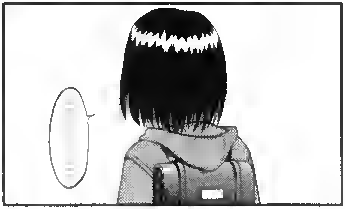
WELL, SURE, I GUESS.
TRY A BIT HARDER TOMORROW, OK?
THAT'S NOT VERY RE ASSURING

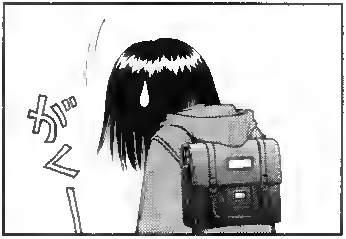
WELL, WHADDDA YA KNOW.
IT REALLY IS HALF-EATEN
DID A PERSON EAT THIS?
DON'T THE BITES LOOK A BIT TOO SMALL?
?
HUH?
swish

ビクッ
?
My name is Ameno-sumera Ashihono-mikoto.
I have descended here on this lucky day, in response to your spiritual aura.
!?
DID IT HAUNT ME...?


For then I shall not hesitate to use my holy powers for you.
Revere me.

OH MAN, I GOT A REALLY BAD ONE...

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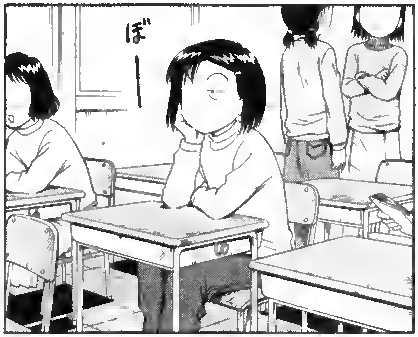
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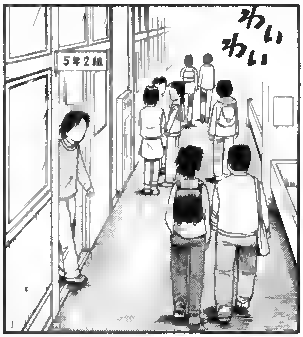
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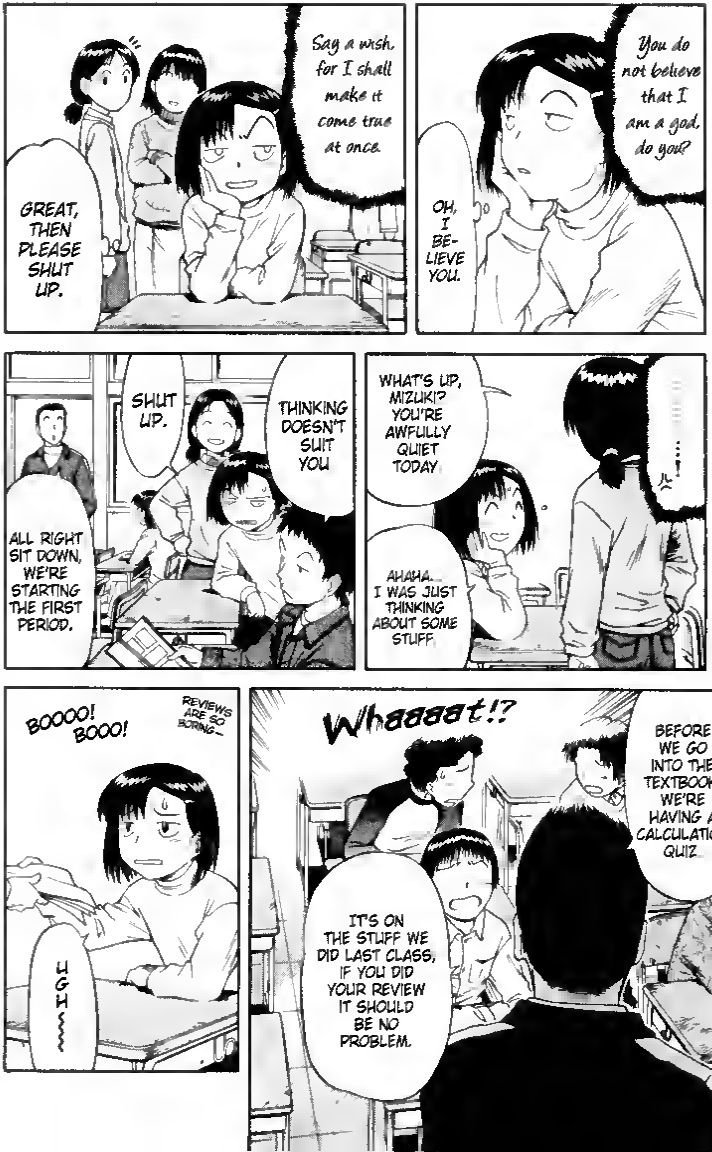
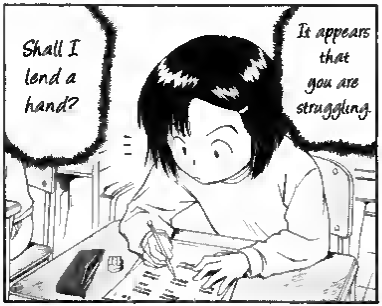
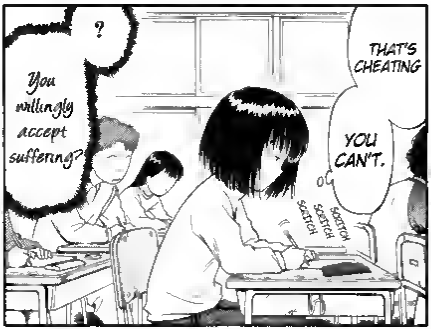

You do not believe that I am a god, do you?
OH, I BE-LIEVE YOU.
Say a wish, for I shall make it come true at once.
GREAT, THEN PLEASE SHUT UP.
WHAT'S UP, MIZUKI? YOU'RE AWFULLY QUIET TODAY
AHAHA... I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT SOME STUFF
THINKING DOESN'T SUIT YOU
SHUT UP.
ALL RIGHT SIT DOWN, WE'RE STARTING THE FIRST PERIOD.
BEFORE WE GO INTO THE TEXTBOOK, WE'RE HAVING A CALCULATION QUIZ
Whaaaat!?
IT'S ON THE STUFF WE DID LAST CLASS, IF YOU DID YOUR REVIEW IT SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM.
BOOOO! BOOO!
REVIEWS ARE SO BORING~
UGH~~~

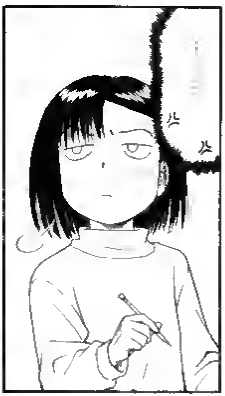
WHAT !?
I need only acquire the answers to those questions, do I not?
The one who appears to be your master is holding a corresponding paper in his hands. I shall go look at it.


It appears that you are struggling.
Shall I lend a hand?

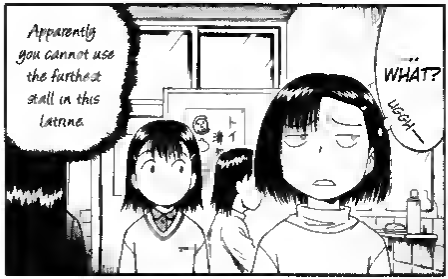
I DON'T WANT TO BE TRICKED, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT WON'T DO ME ANY GOOD.
JUST SHUT UP!

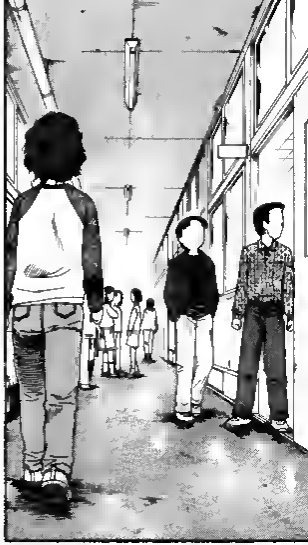

?
You willingly accept suffering?
THAT'S CHEATING
YOU CAN'T.
SCRITCH SCRITCH SCRITCH

GRANDPA'S NOT HERE, I GUESS I CAN JUST GO HOME AND TAKE MY TIME DEALING WITH IT WITH SHIZURU, AND IT'LL BE OK...
WHAT A "GOD"... WELL, I GUESS HE'S NOT SOMETHING THAT WILL CAUSE ANYTHING TERRIBLE TO HAPPEN.



Hey
Girls Bathroom

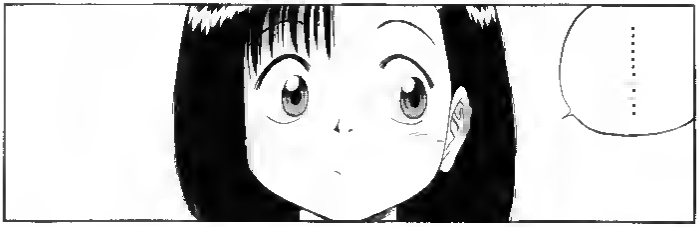

Apparently you cannot use the furthest stall in this latrine.
...WHAT?
UGGH—



THIS TOILET'S CLOGGED RIGHT NOW.
SORRY, WE'LL HAVE IT FIXED BY TOMORROW.

HUH? WHY?
There were a couple of people here previously who were talking about such matters.

ARE YOU SURE...?
AHHH! SORRY!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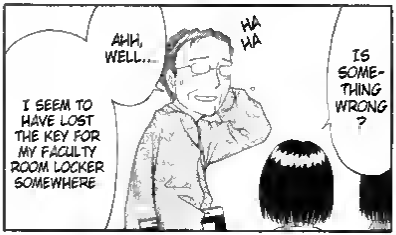
AHH, WELL...
I SEEM TO HAVE LOST THE KEY FOR MY FACULTY ROOM LOCKER SOMEWHERE
HA HA
IS SOME-THING WRONG ?

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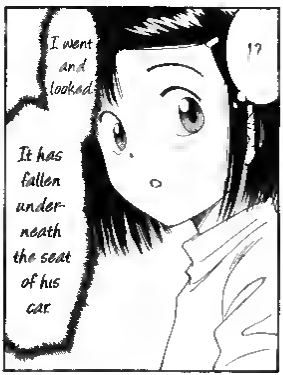
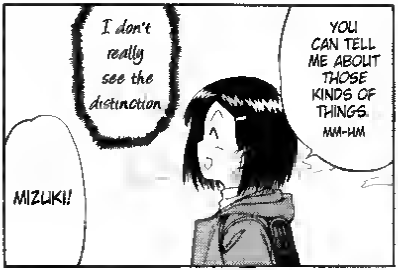
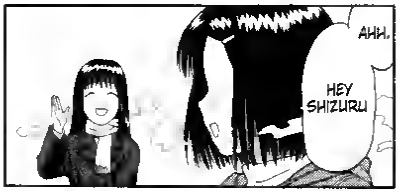
Inside his car
AHH ..

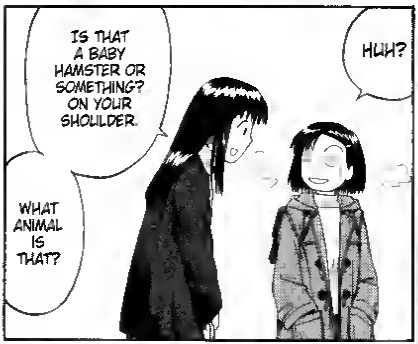
HUH?
HAVE YOU LOOKED IN YOUR CAR?
LIKE, AROUND THE SEAT...


I went and looked.
It has fallen under-neath the seat of his car.
!?

WAY TO GO, GOD!
What is with that irreverent way of speech?


YOU CAN TELL ME ABOUT THOSE KINDS OF THINGS. MM-HM
I don't really see the distinction.
MIZUKI!


AHH.
HEY SHIZURU

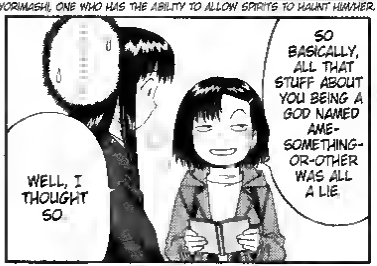

HUH?
IS THAT A BABY HAMSTER OR SOMETHING? ON YOUR SHOULDER.
WHAT ANIMAL IS THAT?

UHH... ANIMAL...?

HEY!
WHAT IS THAT THING?
IT'S CUTE!

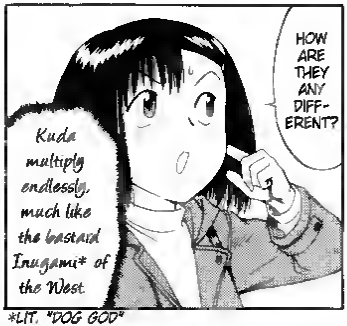
*KENKI, ONE WHO POSSESSES THE ABILITY TO VIEW WHAT USUALLY CANNOT BE SEEN (I.E. THE SUPERNATURAL) A "SEER"

*YORIMASHI, ONE WHO HAS THE ABILITY TO ALLOW SPIRITS TO HAUNT HIMMER.

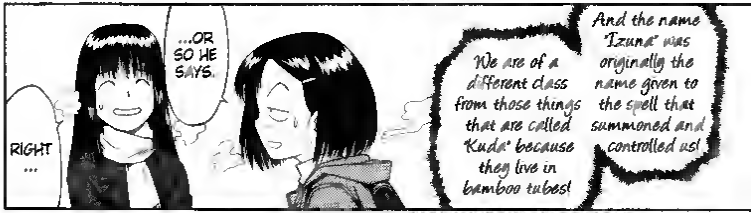


How DARE you!? Do not group me with those things!!
Being called an Izuna is fine, but I will NOT allow you to call me a Kuda! I cannot stand the thought of being considered one of them!!

They are disloyal creatures who haunt households, and in some cases turn on their masters.
We are different! There are a few bad apples, but fundamentally we choose our own masters and swear absolute loyalty to them.

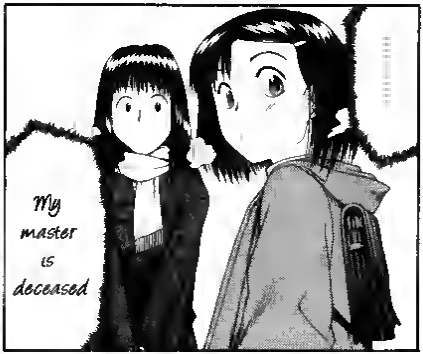


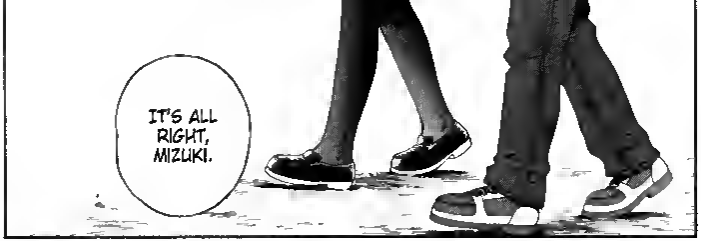
*LIT. "DOG GOD"


RIGHT...
...OR SO HE SAYS.
We are of a different class from those things that are called "Kuda" because they live in bamboo tubes!
And the name "Izuna" was originally the name given to the spell that summoned and controlled us!

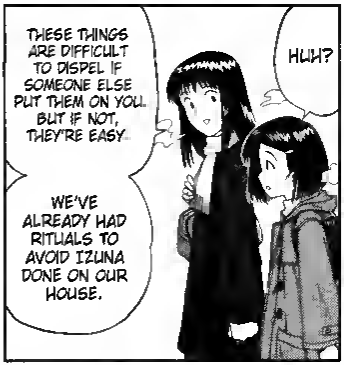
"KUDA" IS LITERALLY "PIPE" OR "TUBE"

My comrades with whom I served have all either died or drifted off to other areas.
Right now I am a vagrant, wandering the land in search of a new master.

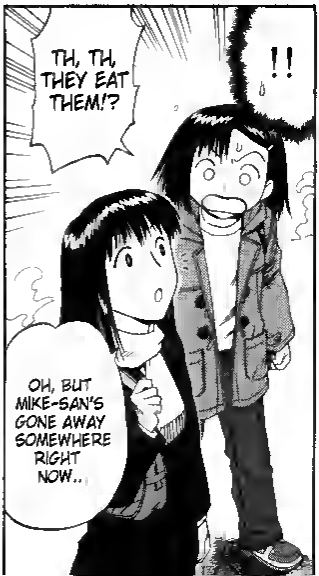


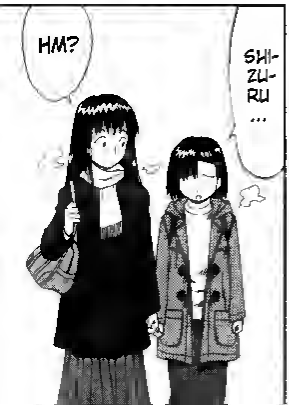

IT'S ALL RIGHT, MIZUKI.

IZUNA, THE SKILL TO CONTROL IZUNA AND KUDA, ISN'T VERY WELL REGARDED IN GRANDPA'S LINE OF WORK. THAT'S WHY WE KEEP A CAT AT OUR PLACE; TO SHOW THAT "WE DON'T USE THOSE KINDS OF THINGS."
WE HAVE MIKE-SAN AT HOME, RIGHT? THEY SAY CATS EAT IZUNA AND KUDA.


HUH?
THESE THINGS ARE DIFFICULT TO DISPEL IF SOMEONE ELSE PUT THEM ON YOU. BUT IF NOT, THEY'RE EASY.
WE'VE ALREADY HAD RITUALS TO AVOID IZUNA DONE ON OUR HOUSE.

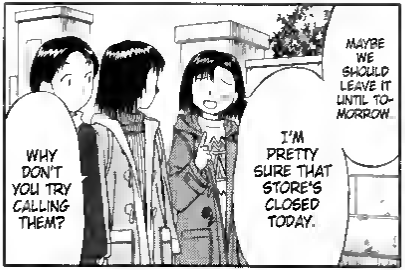
WELL, HE'LL COME BACK IN A COUPLE OF DAYS.
WE'LL FIGURE SOMETHING OUT BY THE TIME GRANDPA GETS HOME.

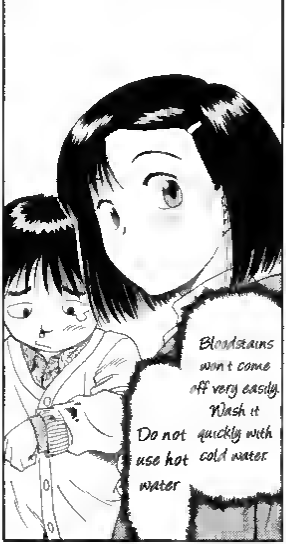

!!
TH, TH, THEY EAT THEM!?
OH, BUT MIKE-SAN'S GONE AWAY SOMEWHERE RIGHT NOW..

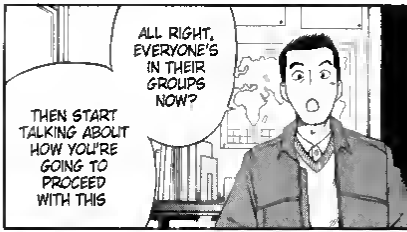

HM?
SHI-ZU-RU ...

IZUNA!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS...
HE'S REALLY NOT THAT BAD.
IF I CAN GET RID OF HIM ANYTIME I WANT... CAN I JUST LET HIM STAY WITH ME UNTIL GRANDPA GETS HOME?
AND STAY AWAY FROM THE HOUSE FOR A WHILE, SO MIKE-SAN DOESN'T SEE HIM.
WHEN I TELL YOU TO GET OUT, THEN LEAVE IN PEACE, OK? IF YOU CAN PROMISE ME THAT, YOU CAN STAY FOR A WHILE!
IF YOU DON'T, I'LL FEED YOU TO MIKE-SAN!
GOT THAT?
..YOU HAUNTED ME BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO REST, RIGHT?
GET RID OF YOUR TRAVEL FATIGUE.
'K?
I am thankful to you...

A kotatsu* is indeed a good thing, it is warm
CRUNCH CRUNCH CRUNCH
FU FU FU
OHHHHH!!
*A LOW TABLE WITH A BLANKET ATTACHED AROUND IT AND A HEATING SOURCE UNDERNEATH IT
...MAYBE HE CAN'T HELP THE BAD RAP HE GETS...
BUT I THINK IT'S ALL IN WHAT YOU ASK OF HIM.
YUP
MIZUKI, YOU'RE IN A GOOD MOOD
YEP, HEHEHE...
HE JUST WANTS TO TELL YOU EVERYTHING, SO ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS SHOW HIM A GOOD EXAMPLE OF WHAT TO DO.
THEN I'M SURE HE'LL...
DON'T GO OVER THERE, IT'S DANGER-OUS!
THE ROAD'S STILL ICY BECAUSE IT'S IN THE SHADE!



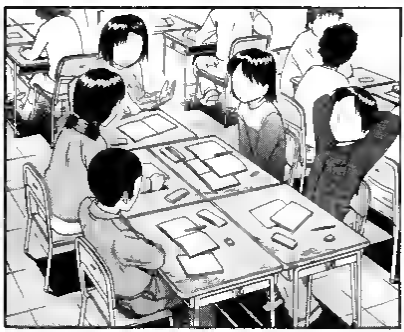




Group Research: Life in the Old Days

What life was like when the elderly were still kids.
-about their life (cooking, laundry, cleaning)
-about their work (what sort of work they did)
-about their entertainment
(what sort of games they played, how to make toy

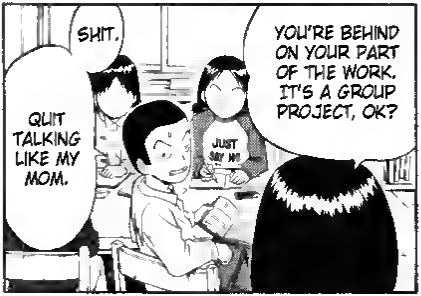
Methods: Research tools: Interview the elderly

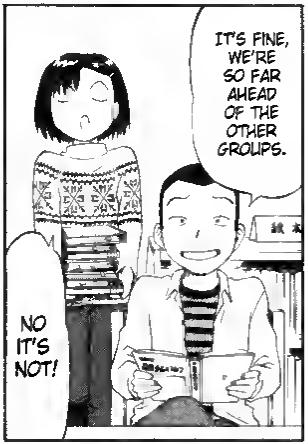


YOUNK
That one.
That one too.
And that one.
I ATTACHED POST-ITS TO THE PARTS I THOUGHT WE COULD USE
WE CAN MAKE A REPORT BY TAKING OUT THE PARTS I TELL YOU TO.
IT'LL BE REALLY FAST IF WE SPLIT UP THE WORK
W...
WOW...
OH, AND WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT INTERVIEWING OLD PEOPLE?
IF YOU DON'T HAVE AN ELDERLY PERSON IN YOUR FAMILY, WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH ME? MY GRANDPA'S AWAY RIGHT NOW, TOO.
I'LL TAKE YOU TO SEE A BUNCH OF PEOPLE I KNOW.
LEAVE IT TO ME.

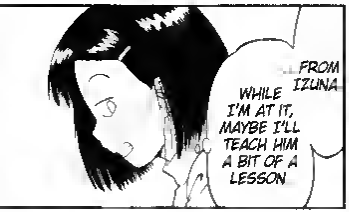
YOU GUYS LOOK LIKE YOU'RE CRUISING ALONG.

HEY KASAMA, QUIT SCREWING AROUND.
DAMN!
HIBARA DOES EVERYTHING FOR US; WE'VE GOT IT SO EASY.


SHIT.
QUIT TALKING LIKE MY MOM.
YOU'RE BEHIND ON YOUR PART OF THE WORK. IT'S A GROUP PROJECT, OK?
JUST SAY NO


IT'S FINE, WE'RE SO FAR AHEAD OF THE OTHER GROUPS.
NO IT'S NOT!

...LIKE THE DAY BEFORE YESTER-DAY?


FROM IZUNA
WHILE I'M AT IT, MAYBE I'LL TEACH HIM A BIT OF A LESSON

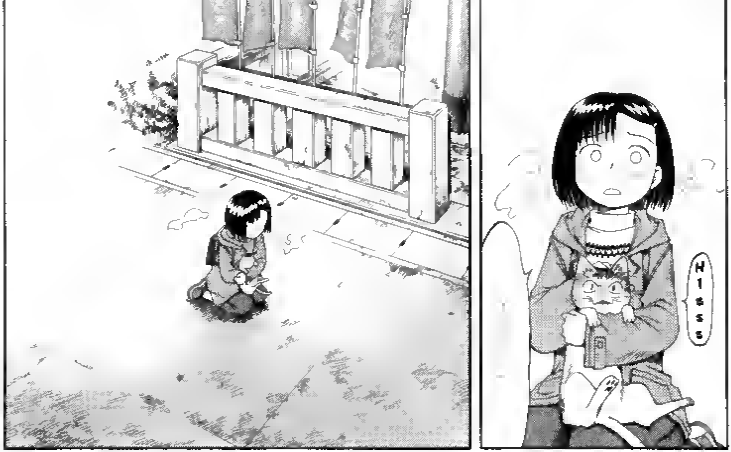
!?
I'VE HEARD ALL SORTS OF BAD RUMORS ABOUT YOU...
THUD

むっ
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I'M LETTING YOU GUYS GET OFF EASY, SO...
GIVING ME ORDERS...
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE SO HYPED ALL OF A SUDDEN, BUT STOP GETTING CARRIED AWAY.
"LETTING" US?
AH!
YOU'RE GETTING A BIT COCKY...
AREN'T YOU?

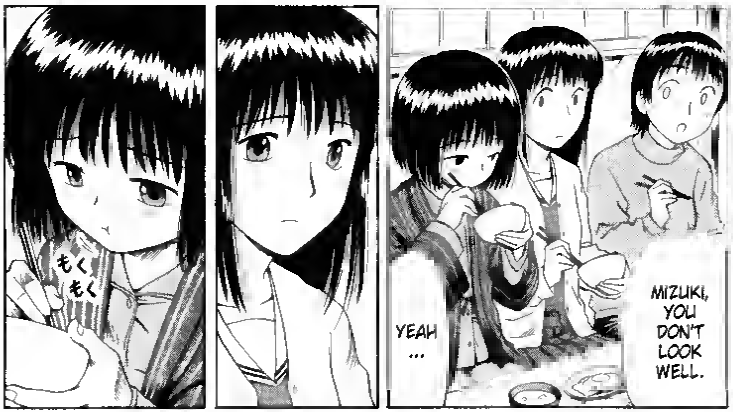
You seem rather deflated.
...I JUST ...THAT WASN'T REALLY LIKE ME.
WHAT I SAID..
I don't see any particular problems.
What you said was quite natural.
YOU THINK SO?
Of course
!!
WHAT ...?
!
Meow!

Uh...
Uh...
IZUNA...
meow—
Mi...
MIKE-SAN!?
Waaaah!!

フー!!!
Heeeeeee
pyoing
N...
NO! MIKE-SAN!
hisss
IZUNA ...
I, I can't stand to be here with that cat any longer!
I,I,I will quickly retreat ...!!
It was only for a short while, but you were my master!! I thank you for caring for me!!
Take care!!
WAIT...
IZU...


HISSS

THE OFFERINGS HAVE STOPPED DISAPPEARING.
YEAH.
I GUESS WHOEVER IT WAS DRIFTED OFF AGAIN.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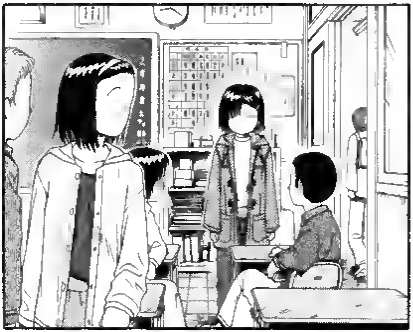
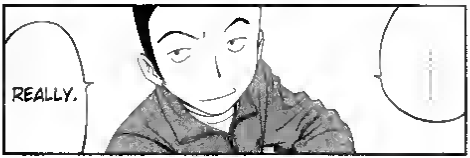
MIZUKI, YOU DON'T LOOK WELL.
YEAH...

I'M SORRY ABOUT YESTER-DAY...

YOU WERE RIGHT, KASAMA, I GOT A BIT CARRIED AWAY.
I REGRET IT...



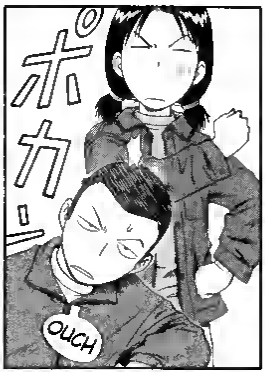
MIZUKI, AN IZUNA ..
IS NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD ON ITS OWN.


REALLY.

WELL, WHATEVER AS LONG AS YOU DON'T ACT ALL COCKY, I DON'T CARE.
I'M SURE YOU'RE GONNA KEEP ON HUSTLING AND DOING ALL OUR WORK. HAHAHA

THEY JUST LEND AND LEND THEIR POWERS, SO THE PEOPLE WHO USE THEM EASILY GET BAD ATTITUDES
THEIR EGOS GET BLOATED, THEY GET COCKY. THAT'S THE REASON IZUNA ARE THOUGHT OF AS BEING BAD...
I DON'T THINK I CAN DO AS MUCH
BUT I'LL TRY...

!
GEEZ! WHAT THE HELL!?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, KASAMA !?


ポカ
OUCH

WE RELIED TOO MUCH ON MIZUKI, AND MADE HER SHOULDER TOO MUCH

ARE YOU STILL GONNA RELY ON MIZUKI?
YOU'RE THE COCKIEST ONE HERE!

MIZUKI, I THINK YOU'RE A BIT TIRED. YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUSH YOURSELF SO HARD.
WE CAN JUST MAKE EVERYONE PITCH IN.
MIZUKI.
GRANDPA SAYS HE'S COMING BACK TOMORROW.
BE CAREFUL ON YOUR WAY BACK.
BYE.
YEAH...
ALL RIGHT, GOT IT.

DEAD SERIOUS
I'M OBSERV-ING NATURE.
EWW, WHAT ARE YOU WATCH-ING?
BLLLLPPPPT
HMMM...
AND IF HE DOES, DOES HE PURGE THOSE CREATURES IN SOME SHAPE OR FORM?
...I WONDER IF MIKE-SAN EATS ALL SORTS OF MYSTERIOUS CREATURES WHEN WE'RE NOT LOOKING
I HOPE HE HASN'T BEEN EATEN ...
Hoeee
DUNNO
IS THERE SUCH A THING AS A TURD SPIRIT?
FINE THEN.